

REMARKS

Claims 1 -4, and 6-17 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 1-4 and 6-17 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Okigami in view of Antziopoulos. Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 have been amended to better illustrate the feature of the invention relating to the storage of the actual usage of each part, irrespective of whether that part has been used in multiple machines.

The rejection of claim 1-4 and 6-17 is overcome for the following reasons. The first cited reference shows a system for remotely monitoring a device or devices connected to an extranet (Okigami). The second reference (Antziopoulos) shows a device with means for monitoring the intended life of a part in a copier system and measuring that against the actual usage of the part, to determine when the part should be replaced.

The references substantively differ from the present invention by failing to provide means for monitoring the actual life of a part, independent of the usage of such a part in particular copier system or apparatus. The present invention, with reference to claim 1, provides for first and second memories that store information relating to the usage of the parts in the copier and the total life history of a particular part, regardless of whether the part has been used in multiple apparatus. This includes not only the usage of the part since the time it has been installed in the copier, but also includes information concerning the entire life of the part, i.e., for example if the part had already been used prior to installation in the system. This feature of the invention is described in the specification on page 3, lines 16-21. In the Examiner's response to applicant's previous arguments, he noted that this feature was not adequately disclosed in the claims. Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 have, therefore, been amended to reflect this feature. Further, Antziopoulos, in the portion cited by the Examiner, simply refers to a "copy count", but does not provide means for monitoring the complete operational life history of a part if the part has been used in multiple apparatus. Thus, when Antziopoulos is combined with Okigami, the features of claim 1 are not disclosed by the combination of references. Since this feature is not taught, disclosed, or suggested by the references, the rejection is obviated.

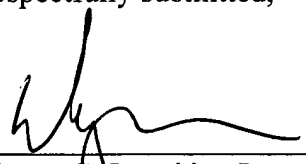
All claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 325772019400.

Respectfully submitted,

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